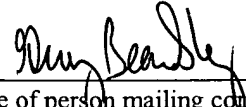


PATENT
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<u>Guy Beardsley</u>	<u></u>
Printed name of person mailing correspondence	Signature of person mailing correspondence

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Frederick M. Ausubel et al.	Art Unit:	1645
Serial No.:	09/975,719	Examiner:	Albert Mark Navarro
Filed:	October 10, 2001	Customer No.:	21559

Title: VIRULENCE-ASSOCIATED NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES AND USES THEREOF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office action that was mailed on December 12, 2003 in connection with the above-captioned patent application, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.